DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 323-5206

March 30, 1984

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I- 30-84

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: SEASONAL STATE EMPLOYMENT PROJECT FOR AFDC RECIPIENTS

REFERENCE:

This is to inform you that the State Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Employment Development Department (EDD) will operate a statewide demonstration project entitled, A Proposal to Reduce Welfare Dependency Through Seasonal Employment Opportunities in State Government. The purpose of the project is to provide voluntary employment opportunities in State Government seasonal jobs to AFDC recipients to help them obtain regular employment and, thereby, reduce welfare dependency. The project period is from March 1, 1984 through February 28, 1985.

This project is mandated by Assembly Bill 1531 (Chapter 1291, Statutes of 1983) (Agnos) signed into law on September 30, 1983. The law provides that 1) persons receiving AFDC who have the necessary civil service qualifications shall receive priority consideration for any civil service seasonal class position which does not require an examination, and 2) participation in a seasonal class vacancy shall be voluntary only and in no event shall any person be subject to sanctions, through loss of AFDC benefits or eligibility, for not applying for, accepting, or continuing in such a position.

The State Personnel Board (SPB) has designated the positions that are considered "seasonal class." SPB will require State agencies with seasonal class positions to identify seasonal vacancies, prepare job announcements, and notify the local EDD offices of any vacant positions. The EDD Job Service Office will refer qualified AFDC recipients to the State agencies for interviews. The State agencies are required to hire qualified AFDC applicants before hiring other applicants. The term of seasonal employment cannot exceed more than 1,500 hours in a fiscal year.

While the primary responsibility for the referral and hiring process rests with EDD and State agencies, county welfare departments may occasionally be asked to verify aid status. In addition, if EDD has difficulty identifying

a sufficient number of referrals, particularly in the non-WIN counties, they may ask county welfare departments to post job announcements in their offices alerting recipients to contact EDD for a referral.

We want to emphasize that participation is to be voluntary. Sanctions and penalties for failure to participate shall not be applied in cases where the recipient chooses not to participate in the project.

This All-County Information Notice will be followed by any necessary claiming or reporting instructions relating to this project. If you have any questions regarding this Demonstration Project, please contact Glen A. Campora of the Employment Programs Bureau at (916) 323-5206.

KYVE S. McKINSEY Depaty Director

cc: CWDA